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Atty. Dkt. No. 023971-0347

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Takanobu SUGIYAMA et al.

Title: INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE HAVING VARIABLE  
COMPRESSION RATIO MECHANISM AND CONTROL METHOD  
THEREFOR

Appl. No.: 10/728,900

Filing Date: 12/08/2003

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 3747

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document, except as noted below, is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The USPTO has waived the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) to submit copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications when citing and submitting an Information Disclosure Statements in a patent application filed after June 30, 2003 and in an international application that has entered the national stage under 37 USC §371 after June 30, 2003. Accordingly, copies of these types of documents are not being supplied in connection with this application. Reference is being made to Pre-OG Notice from Office of Patent Legal Administration dated July 25, 2003, *Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003.*



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The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

The foregoing documents came to Applicants' attention during a search of the corresponding European application. A copy of the European Search Report setting forth the portion of each reference considered relevant by the examiner is attached.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

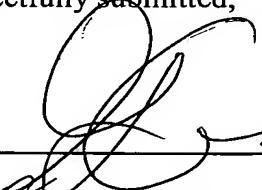


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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

By \_\_\_\_\_

  
Richard L. Schwaab  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 25,479

Date May 21, 2004

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP  
Customer Number: 22428  
Telephone: (202) 672-5414  
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

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<p>Substitute for form 1449B/PTO</p> <p><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b></p> <p>Date Submitted: May 21, 2004</p> <p>(use as many sheets as necessary)</p>				<p><i>Complete if Known</i></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Application Number</td> <td>10/728,900</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>12/08/2003</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Takanobu SUGIYAMA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group Art Unit</td> <td>3747</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>Unassigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>023971-0347</td> </tr> </table>		Application Number	10/728,900	Filing Date	12/08/2003	First Named Inventor	Takanobu SUGIYAMA	Group Art Unit	3747	Examiner Name	Unassigned	Attorney Docket Number	023971-0347
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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>
	A3	Patent Abstracts of Japan, vol. 010, No. 092, 9 April 1986, JP 60-230526, 16 November 1985.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.